

## YOUNG WOMAN AND HER PART IN WAR

Female Helpers Find Many Ways to Aid Government.

### MUST ECONOMIZE IN SKILL

Splendid Opportunities Await Those Who Are Anxious to Assist—Should Be Able to Do Something Specific.

By MARY AUSTIN.  
(From the Committee on Public Information, Washington, D. C.)

What shall she do, the young woman at home, who is neither the mistress of the house nor a wage earner? How shall she turn back to the general account the care and schooling she has had, and how satisfy the hungry desire to serve her country, which is, thank God, as characteristic of our young women as our young men? Every hour since the war my telephone has been ringing with questions like these.

Young men are captured and generated. Expert supervision of their patriotic service is at their elbows. They have the splendid inspiration of togetherness, music, banners, shoulder touching shoulder. Even wage-working women have a sense of direction; they see the work that passes through their hands pushed steadily to an end. But the young woman of brains and education and leisure must captain herself. She must find her own job herself.

In France and England the lone woman had no problem, unless it were the difficulty of deciding which of the many things to be done were to be done first. But in America labor leaders have warned against clogging the wheels of war industries with crowds of unskilled women who know none of the necessities of the wage earners. This is the wage earners' opportunity also, and no excess of zeal on our part should rob them of the chance to carry, as they are, the national burden. But that does not mean that strong well-educated young women shall have no part in this war but the traditional hand-waving from the balcony.

#### Capacity Going to Waste.

The first condition, however, of the young woman's getting a specific thing to do is for her to be able to do something specific. There is a great deal of formless capacity going to waste in every community—waste of talent and waste of skill. And it is being wasted largely because we have, as a people, fallen a little into the weakness of democracies, and imagine we can do nothing by ourselves. We think of something which seems desirable to have done, and we rush out and organize vast machines for cleaning the streets, when all that was really needed was to sweep out our own front yard. Women who wish to fill a place in the plans of the government must first trim themselves into some definite shape, as clerks, as secretaries, as mechanics, or what not.

The trouble with much of our American life is that it has made us like those cooks who can cook delightfully only so long as they have an unlimited amount of the most expensive materials. We have come to think that we can do very little of anything without the most expensive teachers and pedagogic equipment.

But it is not only in food that we must economize now; we must economize in skill. In every community of 3,000, or even less, there is enough neglected skill to turn all of its unattached young women into first-rate workers.

Take your town bank, for instance. There is an expert accountant there, probably eating his heart out because he is too old or physically unfit for field service. He would be happy to pass on his thirty-five years of experience to you, to be used as the government is going to have to use women accountants.

In your father's store, very likely, there is a man who could make a book-keeper out of you in three months, and have the thrill of patriotic service at the same time. If there is a Carnegie library in your town, there is somebody there who can teach you card cataloging and filing. If you are fortunate enough to live at the county seat your opportunities for learning clerical work are greatly increased.

Typewriting you can teach yourself. Learn the touch system and how to make clean carbons. A textbook comes with every machine, and if you cannot afford a machine, borrow one, or club together with two others and rent one for \$3.

Indexing and filing are both in demand in all departmental work; though it will not be so easy to find opportunity for learning them in towns under 10,000. But telegraphy can be learned even in the rural districts. A few hours from an obliging local operator, a good text book, and a small Morse outfit which can be set up between two farms, will carry you a

long way toward proficiency. And the code, and everything you learn about electricity, would be of use to you should an opportunity come your way later to learn wireless telegraphy—a work which is peculiarly adapted to the sensitive woman.

The government has already opened the motor transport service to women. If this appeals to you, begin to fit yourself for it now.

There are a great many varieties of motor transport service, but even if none of the more dramatic opportunities come to you, there is an important service ahead of women in driving tractors.

If a woman has any gift for it at all, mechanical draftsmanship is very much worth while. Government construction plants employ many draftsmen, and you would be surprised to find how much of this you can learn from your local architect or from any manufacturing plant near your town.

Long before technical schools were established men learned all they needed to know by apprenticeship, and the plan I propose to you is simply to revert to the earlier, simple method. Apprentice yourself to your chosen trade in the person of the most skilled workman you know. If you do not know how to choose, make a census of the skills of your town. Find out the most valuable skill and save that for your country.

#### Can Learn at Home.

Women are the natural conservers of civilization. It is our duty to gather up and hold fast every bit of gain. Women are only just learning what it costs men to be proficient, and even if there is no definite objective in view, we could not go far wrong in attempting to save something of the proficient man's purchase. I have spoken of these particular occupations as being directly connected with the government machine, realizing something of the hunger of women to be identified with it as men are. There is a sense in which any work which releases a man for the front is government service; but I have particularly wished to point out how women may fit themselves for national service in their own homes. There are other things than these, new openings every week, things which can be mastered on the farm or in the smallest village. You do not, for example, have to go out of your own town to learn how to be a postal clerk.

There is in every town a good job for somebody in keeping in touch with the needs of the government machine. If you can do nothing else, be the co-herer; find out from your state officials and from Washington all about the qualifications, the dates and places of civil service examinations, the jobs for which no examination but merely a certificate of fitness is required. See to it that your circulating library has such books as are needed by students. If your state has a traveling library, know what helps it can give. There is no real reason why any American should not be able to learn anything he—or she—puts her mind to.

There is another branch of patriotic service which, though it has not been departmentally opened to women here as in England, is open through communities and committees to American women. This is the branch of the commissary. It includes all sorts of knowledge supposed to be native to the genius of women, of food buying and storing and cooking on a large scale. The basis of commissary work is a natural aptitude for it and a knowledge of food values. This you can teach yourself at home, making a laboratory of your kitchen. The rest you can learn through community activities in your town, community storehouses, community kitchens, community canning clubs and buying clubs. The department of agriculture can supply you with information on the conduct of all these enterprises. Already the demand for instructors in these branches exceeds the supply. And if the war should surprise us by the years it holds out, there is no doubt many of them will be made a part of the government machine, just as they have been abroad. In that case the women who will be chosen are the women who had the initiative to prepare themselves long in advance of the necessity.

Food production is as important as food conservation, but it can be learned only by those who have a certain amount of capital at their disposal, lands or tools, or stock. All the things I have mentioned call for very little more than the personal equipment—industry, patience and staying power.

And this war is different from other wars for women, simply as it uses more of these qualities than any other. Wives and mothers have never lacked opportunity for war service, but this war calls for qualities in woman which transcend her sex and establish her social value on her power to do, rather than on her power to give. More than any war that was ever fought, it is a lone woman's war. Women have played the part of scabbard for the sword, they have been the belt which binds it to their sons; now comes the day when the woman must be herself the sword. Nobody who knows American women can doubt that the occasion will find them well tempered, swift and keen.

## Why We Believe the Bible

By REV. W. W. KETCHUM  
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It may be helpful to some who are wondering if the Bible is the Word of God, if we state some reasons why Christian men and women believe the Bible.



It is not a mark of learning, as some would have us think, to disbelieve the Bible. Mr. Gladstone, England's greatest statesman, said, "It has been my privilege to know intimately sixty great men and all but six of them were earnest acknowledged Christians."

Belief in the Bible is not a leap in the dark. It is not attempting to believe it when we have no evidence whether it is true or not. Belief in the Bible rests upon evidence which to those who believe in the Bible is sufficient for them to accept it as the Word of God or man.

I. One evidence upon which our belief in the Bible rests, is its own testimony. Believing it is unfair to judge it without hearing what it may have to say for itself we listen to its own testimony.

One does not read far in the Bible before he comes to such statements as these: "Thus said the Lord," or "The Lord said." These phrases, or like ones, occur over five hundred times in the first five books of the Bible, and over twelve hundred times in the prophetic books. In addition to this we find that the men who wrote the Old and New Testaments claim their utterances to be divinely inspired. And the New Testament tells us that "holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Spirit of God," and that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God," that is, God-breathed.

Besides this, the book assumes to speak authoritatively from God to man. Now with this testimony before us, we are shut up to one of two conclusions; either it is what it claims to be, or it is a fraud. Having examined, studied and tested the book with the acid test of experience, we are persuaded that its lofty claim is established.

II. Another evidence which has led us to this conclusion and upon which we rest our belief is the unity.

While it is a library of sixty-six books, it is nevertheless one single book and while it was written by about forty different writers, it has a singleness of plan and purpose. This is the face of the fact that its authors wrote over a period of something like fifteen hundred years. There is only one way to account for this unity and that is by believing that there was a great architectural mind that designed and executed his plan.

III. Again an evidence upon which we rest our belief in the Bible is its teaching.

It is the one book that tells us about God; who he is and what he is; that tells us about man, whence he came, what he is, and whither he is going. It reveals the love of God in the plan and purpose of redemption through Christ. Without the Bible, we should by searching try to find out God and by guessing to discover ourselves. By it, we have come to know God, whom to know is life everlasting, and to know ourselves.

What was said of our Lord can be said of the Bible: No book ever spoke like this book. It is, indeed, a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path and shows us the way to that city whose builder and maker is God.

IV. A fourth evidence upon which our belief rests is fulfilled prophecy. Take for instance the prophecies concerning Christ of which there are three hundred and thirty-three in the Old Testament. All the prophecies concerning his first advent have minutely been fulfilled. These prophecies stand the severest tests, so that we know that we are not deceived as to their fulfillment so there was no possible way for the prophet to have known how they were coming out. But they came out as predicted. This is only one of many lines of prophecy, which we would examine. Those concerning the Jews which led a court preacher, when asked by his sovereign to prove the Scriptures, in one word to answer: "The Jews, your majesty, the Jews." And the prophecies concerning the great political systems of the world; such as Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.

Let anyone, who is in doubt about the Scriptures study the evidence of prophecy and he will find ground for faith in the Bible.

V. Then finally, the evidence of what the Bible does is ground for our belief in it. By its fruits it can be judged. It has civilized nations, transformed the lives of millions, given hope to the hopeless, cheer to the downhearted, comfort to the sorrowing, consolation to the dying and taken hell out of life and put heaven in. What the Bible does gives us ground to believe it must be of God.

Road to Heaven.  
No man ever went to heaven without learning humility on this side of the grave.—Rev. H. P. Liddon, D. D.

## Temperance Notes

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

### MANY DRINKERS FOR PROHIBITION.

As an example of liquor-users who acknowledge the evils of drinking and are helping to vote out the traffic is the millionaire packer, Patrick Cudahy. He is doing fine antiliqueur educational work in his packing plant at Cudahy, Wis. In an open letter published in the Milwaukee Times he thus describes some of the effects of a world-wide prohibition as he sees them:

"If some all-powerful person were to appear at the present time on earth and perform a miracle, changing all the booze in the world back to water, and issuing a decree that any person who attempted to make another drop of it would be struck dead by an electric bolt from heaven, just imagine if you can the change that would take place in the world, say ninety days after this event. See the red noses changing to white; the fat beer blouts shrinking to their natural size; the man whom alcohol made a brute of, returning to his normal condition; his wife, whose life this alcohol brute saddened and almost destroyed, returning to her normal condition; the wrinkles and tear furrows in her face being smoothed out; the color coming back to her cheeks; her eyes becoming bright again; her saddened and wretched face becoming joyful and happy.

"In short, the home that alcohol made wretched is now joyful and happy.

"We also see the saloons changed into places of usefulness—some of them ice cream and soda water parlors. A great many of them are used for book stores, for the men who spent their time in saloons are now reading books.

"The saloonkeepers themselves have gone back to their trades and are now useful citizens. And by doing away with alcohol we do not need nearly so many policemen. About seventy per cent of the policemen have been discharged and are engaged in other employment in the shops, and on the farms, changed from idle men to useful producers. The prisons, such as our house of correction, are changed from prison to recreation halls. The grounds about them are converted into beautiful parks. People are now saving the money formerly spent for booze. Savings banks are springing up all over the country. In short, the drunkards and criminals of the world, made so by alcohol, of all classes, are now industrious people and living happy lives. What a glorious change, if this could be brought about, and it may be partially brought about some time by prohibition."

Mr. Cudahy confesses he drinks both beer and whisky, yet seeing the evils of intemperance he uses his influence against the saloons in his own town. A friend of his, Mr. J. P. Benschner, in a letter published by the same paper, says:

"I am not a prohibitionist. I drink beer, although I have never touched whisky, but I have seen the misery which it has created, and I shall do everything within my power to wipe out the thirty-eight bum factories which we now have in Cudahy."

Many drinking men, rich and poor, are taking the same attitude.

### EVEN BREWERS HATE THE SALOON

"No one understands the saloon better than those engaged in the business. They live as far from it as their means will allow; they know that no saloon can live except as it draws money to the bar that is needed by wives and children 'round about. They know that the saloons in the city can be traced by the raising death rate among little children that die from neglect because the money to which they are entitled is squandered at a neighboring bar. They know, too, that when the alcoholic habit is once fastened on a man or a woman, it travels in the blood and that little children have the door of hope shut on them before their eyes have opened to the light of the day."

### NINETY PER CENT DROP IN DRUNKENNESS.

Drunkness in Ogden, Utah, during five months of prohibition decreased approximately 90 per cent. During the first seven months of 1917 there were 918 arrests for drunkenness as against 82 since August 1, 1917, according to the report of the police department. The Salt Lake City News records the fact that more of the stockmen than ever before brought their wives and daughters or other members of the family with them to the convention held in that city this year, and the dryness of the state is said to be the reason.

Papa Is Spoiled.  
"Dorothy, dear," said the indulgent father to his four-year-old daughter, "If you like your new dolly you ought to put your arms about my neck and give me a real nice kiss."  
Dorothy complied, but remarked: "Oh, papa, I does dest spoil you dved-fui."

You Can't Beat 'Em.  
"What. You want another hat. I thought you were helping me save for a rainy day?"  
"Well, it's a rainy day hat I want."



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Negotiable.  
"What do they mean by a negotiable instruction?" "The mandarin must be one. You can always pawn it."

By Contrast.  
"Conditions seem better in Mexico." "Yes, in contrast with Russia, it's almost a nice place to live."



## Bridging the Gap From Steer to Steak

Live stock is raised on the farms and ranches of the West.

Meat is eaten in the large cities of the East, and by our boys in France—thousands of miles away.

The day of transporting live animals from ranch to seaboard and overseas has passed. There was too much waste. The modern packer locates his large and specialized plants in the producing regions. He ships the dressed beef in refrigerator cars, and holds it in his own refrigerated branch warehouses until delivered to the retailer. For shipment to foreign ports, he transfers the meat to refrigerated ships.

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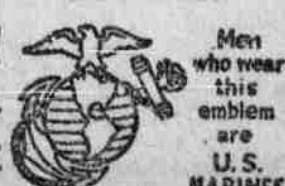
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